

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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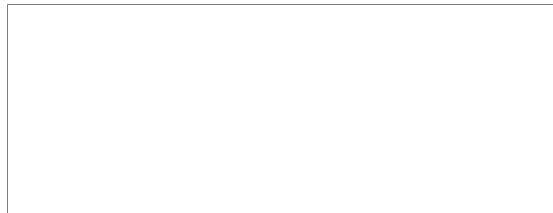
COUNTRY	China	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Reaction in Southwestern Sinkiang to Announcement of Granting of Autonomy to Sinkiang	DATE DISTR.	13 October 1955
		NO. OF PAGES	1 25X1
DATE OF INFO.		REQUIREMENT NO.	RD 25X1
PLACE ACQUIRED		REFERENCES	
DATE ACQUIRED			

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The radio announcement from Urumchi that autonomy was to be granted to Sinkiang was received with alarm in southwestern Sinkiang. The people feared that the local officials, for personal gain, would permit Soviet domination. They remembered that they had suffered with cold and starvation in 1953 and 1954 because all rice, cotton, wool, and wheat was being sent to the USSR and knew that in 1955 the Chinese Communists had blocked Soviet efforts to obtain exports. The Chinese Communists also blocked Soviet efforts to complete the motor road between Kashgar (N 39-29, E 75-58) and Irkeshtam (N 39-40, E 73-53) and the road from Kashgar to Puli (N 37-47, E 75-14) via Gez Pass. 25X1

1. [] Comment. These road-building projects have hitherto been reported among the achievements of the Chinese Communists. [] local officials had been ordered to keep laborers in readiness to work on the jeep route via Gez Pass. [] the Kashgar-Irkeshtam road was in use for truck convoys in 1951 and 1952. 25X1



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